



## **UPCOUNTY CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD**

### **Meeting Summary October 19 , 2009**

#### **Approval of September Meeting Summary**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Robert Thompson. The meeting summary of the September 21, 2009 meeting was approved (motion by Mr. George Donovan; second by Mr. Chris Snead).

#### **Introductions**

Introductions of members and guests were made around the room.

#### **Comments from County Council**

No comments.

#### **Update from Upcounty Regional Services Center Staff**

Catherine Matthews, Director, Upcounty Regional Services Center, reported on the following:

- Montgomery County is scheduling community clinics for H1N1 and seasonal flu shots with details available on the County's website;
- HHS has scheduled a community forum for input on the department's FY2011 operating budget on October 20<sup>th</sup> from 6pm-8pm at the Children's Resource Center in Rockville;
- Community Service Day is on October 24 and URSC staff are partnering with The Lord's Table Soup Kitchen to collect food donations at area grocery stores;
- A kickoff ceremony for Montgomery County's 2010 Census campaign will be held on October 21<sup>st</sup> from 9:30am-10:30am in Rockville Town Center with officials from all levels of government expected to attend;
- The deadline for Maryland's Homeowner's Property Tax Credit program has been extended to Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>;
- The County's Office of Human Rights will host a Fair Housing Forum on Thursday, October 22nd, 12:30-4:00pm, in Bldg 2 of the University of Maryland at Shady Grove; and
- The County is continuing to improve and expand the amount of information found on the "My Montgomery" Online Service Locator; residents can find even more county facilities.

#### **Presentation and Discussion**

Focused Neighborhood Assistance Program in Germantown - The Board received a report from Ms. Patrice Cheatham, Department of Housing and Community Affairs, that the neighborhood study was completed in August 2009 with 21 recommendations received from residents who participated in a community charrette. The nonprofit Affordable Housing Coalition is acquiring many foreclosures in the targeted neighborhood and is aggressively marketing homeownership opportunities. The department has also partnered with the Collaboration Council of Montgomery County with funds to enhance positive youth development activities as well. Stimulus funds were received for weatherization repairs for homeowners and assistance is being offered to homeowner

associations in the affected area. A resident in attendance shared with the Board his community's support of the neighborhood-focused program.

**Report from the Chairperson**

No report.

**Committee and Liaison Reports**

*Land Use and Preservation Committee* – The Land Use and Preservation Committee Chair reviewed the committee's thoughts on the County's Growth Policy and their conclusion that a common theme of improving the quality of life for the County's residents was evident in committee members' concerns and suggestions. The Committee will refine their recommendations for the full Board's adoption and delivery to the County Executive.

*Quality of Life Committee* – The Committee received a briefing on plans for the upcoming Census 2010 and recommends that they assist by serving as a Complete County Committee. Ms. Natalia Farrar encouraged Board members to participate in Community Service Day on October 24<sup>th</sup>.

*Airpark Liaison Committee* – Ms. Joanne Atay reported that the Airpark Liaison Committee is meeting more frequently and have identified noise and safety as their main concerns.

*Upcounty Regional Recreation Advisory Board Liaison* - No report.

*Dickerson Facilities Implementation Group (DFIG)* – Mr. Bachmann reported that the group discussed the budget situation at the last meeting.

*Speed Cameras Advisory Committee*– No report. Mr. Alexander will serve as the Board's liaison with the committee.

*Shady Grove Implementation Advisory Committee* – No report. Mr. Donovan will continue to serve on this committee.

*Permitting Services Advisory Committee* – Mr. Donovan reported that Permitting Services is updating the County's stormwater management policies to be aligned with the State's new regulations that will go into effect in May 2010. Mr. Andrew Einsmann will now represent UCAB on this committee.

*Smart Growth Initiative Implementation Group* – Mr. Aviles and Mr. Donovan reported that a tour was conducted of the Camille Kendall Academic Center on the campus of the Universities at Shady Grove which received a Silver LEEDS certification. (LEEDS – Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design). This is an example of the environmental standard of excellence that will be strived for in future facilities.

**Community Comments**

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. (moved by Mr. Owolabi and seconded by Mr. Donovan).

*Present:* Andres Aviles, Joanne Atay, Heinz Bachmann, Terramika Bellamy, Juan Cardenas, Joel Cockrell, Bradley Davis, George Donovan, Cherian Eapen, Andrew Einsmann, Natalia Farrar, James King, Matthew Leakan, Robert Owolabi, Christopher Snead, Bob Thompson,

*Guests:* Pam Saul, Office of Maryland Senator Rona Kramer; Marilyn Balcombe, President, Gaithersburg-Germantown Chamber of Commerce; Andre Taylor, Gazette Newspapers; Steve Traylor, Cinnamon Woods resident

*Staff present:* Catherine Matthews, Jewru Bandeh